

Growing Our Own for Baltimore County Public Schools Scholarship Application for Aspiring Teachers Application Guidelines



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| Scholarship Purpose: | Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) is currently experiencing a major teacher shortage, especially a shortage of teachers who are black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), teachers of special education and ESOL, and women in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) content areas. The Baltimore County Government has offered the Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, Inc. (The Foundation) a \$1 million dollar grant to support the efforts of the BCPS Department of Human Resources in recruiting, training, and retaining BIPOC teachers and women in STEM fields to teach in BCPS. |
| Scholarship Focus: | The partners commit to providing \$1 million dollars to The Baltimore County Diverse Teacher Recruitment Scholarship: <i>Growing Our Own for BCPS</i> in order to support college students in their Junior and Senior years, BCPS para-educators, conditional teachers contracted with BCPS, and career changers attending local Maryland colleges/universities and studying education by encouraging them to complete their internships in BCPS schools and commit to teaching in BCPS schools for the first three years after they graduate from their teacher education programs. |
| Award Range: | Up to \$1 million - the award range will depend on the number of applicants. |
| Eligibility: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be a college student in the Junior or Senior year, a BCPS para-educator, and/or a career changer studying education between June 1, 2024 and June 30, 2026. • Must be a student who is black, indigenous, a person of color (BIPOC), and/or a women pursuing a teaching certificate in science, technology, engineering, and/or math (STEM). • Must provide verification of enrollment in a local accredited two- or four-year college or university. • Must have a minimum 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA). • Must complete the Scholarship Fund Application • Must personally write the <i>Growing Our Own for BCPS</i> Scholarship Application Essay. |
| Requirements: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet all eligibility requirements. • Complete internships in BCPS schools. • Commit to teaching for 3 years in BCPS upon graduation from an accredited teacher-education program. |
| Funding: | <p>Funds for the Baltimore County Diverse Teacher Recruitment Scholarship: <i>Growing Our Own for BCPS</i> program will be grant funded by the Baltimore County Government. The grant funds will be held and disbursed as scholarships by The Foundation. The funds will be available between June 1, 2024, and June 30, 2026. The number of scholarships funded will depend upon the number of applicants.</p> <p>Scholarship Funds may be awarded between June 1, 2024, and June 30, 2026 for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees • Books |
| Scholarship Application Essay | <p>The <i>Growing Our Own for BCPS</i> Application Essay must be typed, double-spaced, and in 12-pt font. The Application Essay should contain up to, but not exceed, 500 words.</p> <p>The Essay should address the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In what subject(s) are you pursuing a teaching certificate? What grade level(s) are you interested in teaching this subject(s)? Why? ➤ What specific skills do you have that will help you earn your teaching certificate and to teach children? ➤ Why is it important for you to commit to teaching in Baltimore County Public Schools? |
| Letters of Recommendation | Two letters of recommendation are required. Family members should not be used as references. One letter of recommendation should be submitted by your School of Education Academic Advisor or Teaching Internship Supervisor. |
| Application Deadline: | Applications must be submitted electronically or before Tuesday, April 30, 2024, by 5:00 pm. Late applications will not be accepted. If the deadline is extended for any reason, it will be at the decision of the <i>Growing Our Own for BCPS</i> Scholarship Committee. |
| Application Review: | Applications will be competitively reviewed by the <i>Growing Our Own for BCPS</i> Scholarship Committee. |
| Notification of recipients: | Recipients will receive an e-mail notification from the Associate Director of The Foundation on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, and a media release will be placed on The Foundation’s website and all social media platforms on Friday, May 17, 2024. |
| Scholarship Summary: | A final scholarship summary and storyboard with photos and highlights must be submitted to The Foundation upon graduation and job placement in a BCPS school and no later than June 30, 2026. Failure to submit a final scholarship summary and storyboard will prevent the applicant from receiving any further grants or scholarships from The Foundation. |
| Checklist for Submitting Application: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed application. <input type="checkbox"/> Attached an essay (typed, double spaced and in 12-point font; 500 words). <input type="checkbox"/> Attached verification of enrollment in an accredited two- or four-year college or university. <input type="checkbox"/> Attached two letters of recommendation (one from the School of Education Advisor). |

**Growing Our Own for Baltimore County Public Schools
Scholarship Application for Aspiring Teachers**



INFORMATION: Applicant's Pertinent Information:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____

Maiden Name (if applicable): _____

Street: _____ City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Gender:

- Male
- Female
- Non-Binary

Race:

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

High School Information:

Name of High School: _____ School Office Phone Number: _____

Year of Graduation: _____ Final GPA: _____ Final QPA: _____

College/University Information:

Status: I am a:

- College student who will be in Junior and/or Senior year(s) between June 1, 2024 and June 30, 2024
- BCPS para-educator
- Conditional teacher contracted with BCPS
- Career changer
- Other (please explain)

Name of College/University: _____

Street: _____ City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

School of Education Advisor's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Advisor's Email Address: _____

Major(s): _____

Minor(s): _____

Enrolled: Part-Time Full-Time

Which Semesters between June 1, 2024, and June 30, 2026, do you plan to take classes:

Summer 2024 Fall 2024 Winterim 2025 Spring 2025 Summer 2025 Fall 2025

Winterim 2026 Spring 2026 Summer 2026

Current GPA: _____ Projected Year of Graduation: _____

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING REQUEST:

| Semester: | Funding For (Tuition/Fees/Books): | Projected Cost: |
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| Total Scholarship Amount Requested | | _____ |

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ESSAY:

The *Growing Our Own for BCPS* Application Essay must be typed, double-spaced, and in 12-pt font. The Application Essay should contain up to, but not exceed, 500 words.

The Essay should address the following questions:

- In what subject(s) are you pursuing a teaching certificate? What grade level(s) are you interested in teaching this subject(s)? Why?
- What specific skills do you have that will help you earn your teaching certificate and to teach children?
- Why is it important for you to commit to teaching in Baltimore County Public Schools?

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Current or Most Recent Employment Information

Job Title: _____ Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Company: _____ Supervisor's Name: _____

Supervisor's Email: _____ Supervisor's Phone Number: _____

Duties: _____

Reason for Leaving: _____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

NOTE: Application must be completed and submitted electronically ***on or before Tuesday, April 30, 2024, by 5 p.m.*** The cover sheet will not be included as part of the actual selection process by the Growing Our Own for BCPS Scholarship Committee. Consideration of your request will be based entirely on the following proposal.

I accept the guidelines of this scholarship application and understand that the decision of The Foundation is final. I certify that the facts set forth in this Scholarship Application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that upon the receipt of the named scholarship I must maintain my eligibility and meet the qualifications as stated above. I understand that if I am selected, I will commit to teaching for three years for the Baltimore County Public Schools after successfully earning my teaching certification. If I am selected as the recipient of this scholarship, I understand it must be utilized between June 1, 2024, and June 30, 2026, unless permission has been granted by the *Growing Our Own for BCPS* Scholarship Committee to extend for some unseen reason.

Applicant's Name: _____ (Printed) _____ (Signature) Date: _____